BENEFITS TO THE PASSENGERS OF VAYUDOOT AND IA

3083. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Questions No. 921 and 927 given in Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 1993 and state :

(a) whether the passengers of Vayudoot and Indian Airlines will be benefitted by the merger of Vayudoot and Indian Airlines in any way; and

(b) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The resources and expertise available with the two airlines will be integrated and utilised more optimally leading to better operation of air services by them.

ORGANISATION OF GRAND WINTER CARNIVAL IN DELHI

3084. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation with a view to promote tourism activity in Delhi has organised some Grand Winter Carnival in some parts of Delhi in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to ask Tourism Transportation Development Corporations of States and Union Territories to organise such activities in their respective areas also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not; the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A week long Tourism Festival was organised by Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation from 6th December to 12th December 1993. The main events organised were folk music and dances, food festivals, kite flying, music concerts, Chrysanthemum show etc.

(c) and (d) The State Tourism Departments and Tourism Development Corporations organise such festivals from time to time. The Central Department of Tourism extends financial assistance for publicity items and construction of semi permanent stage for identified fairs and festivals only.

INDIRA GANDHI BOAT RACE OT COCHIN

3085. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indira Gandhi Boat Race has been organised at Cochin, Kerala in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this event was presided over by a personality of National Level;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government propose to organise similar events to be presided over by a similar National level personality in future; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indira Gandhi Boat Race was organised by the District Tourism Promotion Council, Ernakulam, in the memory of the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi. This Boat Race was first organised in 1986 at Cochin. From 1991 it is being organised regularly.

(c) to (f) in 1986 the then Prime Minister Late Shri Rajiv Gandhi inaugu-